GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1786
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2001
USE OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS
JASKAUR MEENA;JASWANT SINGH BISHNOI

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the farmers in the country have started using more chemicals and fertilizers;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the use of chemicals and fertilizers in agriculture is causing adverse impact on human health; and

(d) if so, whether the Government are contemplating to impose a ban on their use?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD Y. NAIK)

(a) & (b): The farmers in the country use chemicals in the form of pesticides for plant protection measures. The consumption of pesticides has come down from 61,357MT (technical grade) during 1994-95 to 46,195MT (technical grade) during 1999-2000.

The consumption of fertilizers has increased from 63.4 kg in terms of nutrients (N.P.K.) per hectare during 1989-90 to 76 kg per hectare during 1996-97 and the estimated consumption during 1999-2000 was 95.38 Kg per hectare. The fertilizer consumption has been increasing as their application results in increased yields.

(c) & (d): The pesticides and fertilizers approved for use in the country do not pose any hazard to human health if used in prescribed dose, number of sprays, waiting period, concentration etc. The use of pesticides is reviewed from time to time and as and when any pesticide is found harmful to human health, its manufacture, sale and use is banned in the country.

There is no proposal to ban the use of fertilizers. Government, however, promotes the integrated use of plant nutrients involving organic manures, bio fertilizers and chemical fertilizers.